



09/829,678

PATENT

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9/25/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: William W. Cimino Examiner: Thissell, J.  
Serial No.: 09/829,678 Group Art Unit: 3763  
Filed: April 9, 2001 Docket No.: 40206.0001USC1  
Title: PROTECTIVE SHEATH AND METHOD FOR ULTRASONIC PROBES

<p><u>CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:</u> "Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 187494256 US Date of Deposit: September 16, 2002 I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. By: <i>Karen S. Wilwerding</i> Name: Karen S. Wilwerding</p>
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)) SEP 28 2002

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECHNOLOGY CENTER #0700

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 or a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) and § 1.98(d), copies have been provided for those items listed on the enclosed Form 1449 which have also previously been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in parent application, U.S. Serial No. 09/191807 filed on November 13, 1998.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

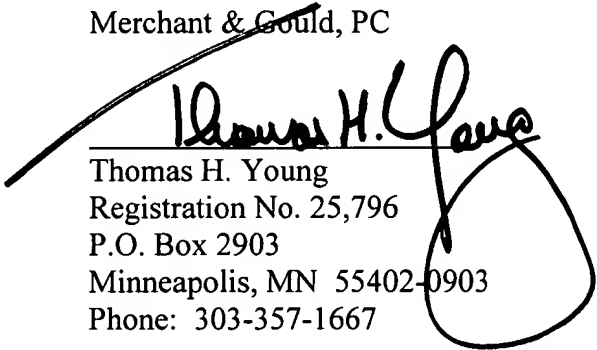
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2002.



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